

# GREENSBORO URBAN AREA

# **Metropolitan Planning Organization**

# TCC MEETING AGENDA

April 17, 2002 / 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.
County Commissioners' Briefing Room (Blue Room)
Old Guilford County Courthouse

## **Action Items**

- 1. Approve Minutes of February 20, 2002
- 2. Memorandum of Agreement, Piedmont Triad Regional Travel Demand Model
- 3. Amend 2002 2008 MTIP: PART Regional Park and Ride Lots
- 4. Amend 2002 2008 MTIP: PART Unfunded Capital Projects, FY 2003

## **Business Items**

- 1. Guilford College Road Widening Project Scope Update
- 2. PART Capital project listing for 2004 2010 MTIP
- 3. Report on the MPO Priority Needs Session
- 4. MPO Planning Updates

#### Other Items

1. TCC Member Update



## GREENSBORO URBAN AREA

# **Metropolitan Planning Organization**

# TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Minutes of February 20, 2002 2:05 p.m. Greensboro, NC County Commissioner's Briefing Room (Blue Room) Old Guilford County Courthouse

## **ATTENDANCE**

Jim Westmoreland	TCC Chair / GDOT	Jeff Sovich	GDOT
Tyler Meyer	GDOT	Scott Walston	NCDOT Statewide Planning
Libby James	GTA	S. Frank Wyatt	Greensboro Engineering & Inspections
Bill Marley	FHWA, NC Division	Mark Kirstner	Guilford County Planning
Scott Rhine	PART	Tom Martin	Greensboro City Planning
Craig McKinney	GDOT	Mike Mills	NCDOT

Jim Westmoreland called the meeting to order at approximately 2:05 pm.

#### **Action Items**

#### 1. Approval of Minutes of December 11, 2001

Frank Wyatt moved for the approval of the December 11, 2001 minutes. Scott Walston seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### 2. Amend Public Transportation Element of 2002 – 2008 MTIP

Tyler Meyer formally introduced Jeff Sovich to the Committee. Jeff Sovich then informed the Committee concerning the amendment to the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program for fiscal years 2002-2008. The amendments under consideration actually apply to fiscal years 2002 and 2003. The changes were made in response to an increase in federal funding during 2002 of approximately \$25,000 and an increase of federal funding in 2003 of approximately \$189,000. In addition, there was an increase in the state maintenance assistance of \$206,000 during 2002 and \$222,000 in 2003.

This amendment also responds to changes in GTA's capital programming needs. These changes reflect the current numbers in capital programs for operating assistance, capital assistance and transit planning assistance. The requested action is to recommend approval of the proposed amendment.

Jim Westmoreland asked for a motion to recommend the amendment. Scott Walston moved for the motion to recommend the amendment. Frank Wyatt seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### 3. Support for Potential Future TIP Amendments

Jeff Sovich advised the Committee concerning the Transportation Improvement Program. This item was a result of requests by NCDOT that the MPO provide support for several proposed future projects. The first project would be a corridor study on U.S. Highway 29, and the second project would consist of resurfacing work on a segment of Interstate 40/85. The NCDOT has specifically requested that the MPO adopt a resolution of support for these projects and the associated future TIP amendments that would be required.

The U.S. 29 corridor study extends from Florida Street, north to Sixteenth Street. This study would examine options for reconfiguring the existing access points and interchanges. The study would also consider alternatives for reducing traffic through residential areas adjacent to U.S. 29. The MPO and NCDOT Division 7 have jointly developed a scope of work for this project, which would be jointly funded at an estimated cost of \$37,500 each. The associated future TIP amendment for this project would specify the state funding proportion.

The Interstate 40/85 resurfacing project would involve approximately 2,000 feet of the westbound lanes, between approximately 0.4 and 0.8 miles east of Rock Creek Dairy Road. The improvements would include milling and resurfacing of the pavement to eliminate rutting that has developed, and improvements to the drainage structures, to reduce the potential for pooling of water on the roadway. The project will be funded through the Interstate Maintenance Program, and the approximate cost would be \$400,000 to \$500,000.

Mike Mills advised the Committee that this TIP amendment would be brought to the Board of Transportation by May and that the funds for this project would become available in June or July. He also informed the Committee that there have been 56 accidents in the project area in the past 3 years, many resulting from hydro-planing.

Tyler Meyer advised that this resolution would provide MPO support for these projects, which would be adopted into the MTIP when appropriate commitments have made.

Jim Westmoreland asked for a motion to recommend adoption of the resolution of support for the upcoming TIP amendments. Frank Wyatt moved to recommend adoption of the resolution. Scott Rhine seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### 4. MPO Annual Certification for FY 2002 – 2003

Tyler Meyer advised that this self-certification covers fiscal year 2003. The MPO is required to annually certify its compliance with the Clean Air Act, the Civil Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and applicable regulations of the FHWA, the FTA, and the EPA. Mr. Meyer added that once the MPO has been designated a Transportation Management Area, there will be a review of its self-certification by the FHWA and the FTA every 3 years. The requested action is for the TCC to recommend approval of the self-certification resolution.

Jim Westmoreland asked for a motion to recommend to the TAC, approval of the MPO Annual Certification resolution. Frank Wyatt moved to recommend approval of the resolution. Tom Martin seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

### 5. Adopt Planning Work Program FY 2003 – 2003

Tyler Meyer advised that the purpose of the work program is to account for the MPO's use of grant funds for planning purposes. The funds included in the Planning Work Program are: PL Funds, State Planning and Research Funds (SPR), Section 5303 (transit) and Section 5307 (transit). The requested action for this item is for the TCC to recommend adoption of the PWP for the next fiscal year, beginning on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002.

Jim Westmoreland asked for a motion to recommend adoption. Scott Rhine moved for the recommendation. Frank Wyatt seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

## 6. Amend Planning Work Program FY 2001 – 2002

Tyler Meyer advised that this PWP was adopted at this time last year and expires on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2002. The two projects which need to be amended for this fiscal year, are the Long Range Public Transportation Plan and the Triad Regional Travel Demand Model update. These projects will require a draw down of \$118,000 from the previously unobligated PL fund balance. The recommended action is to recommend approval of the amendment by the TAC.

Jim Westmoreland asked for a motion to recommend approval of this amendment to the TAC. Scott Walston moved for the recommendation. Frank Wyatt seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### 7. Adopt Thoroughfare Plan Amendment

Craig McKinney advised the Committee that three additional requests had been received to add to this group of amendments. The first request is to delete the final segment of Bragg Boulevard. The next request came from the NCDOT Statewide Planning Branch concerning Interstate 40 and the Urban Loop. The request includes eliminating the interchange where Market Street and the Urban Loop cross; eliminating the Chimney Rock interchange; adding the Boulder Road Extension grade separation; and changing the Gallimore Dairy Road proposed interchange to an existing interchange.

He also advised that Statewide Planning has requested that the Thoroughfare Plan conform with the Piedmont Triad International Airport Final Environmental Impact Statement. The needed changes include realignment of Bryan Boulevard; realignment of Old Oak Ridge Road; addition of a proposed interchange at Bryan Boulevard and Old Oak Ridge Road; and elimination of a proposed interchange at Bryan Boulevard and Inman Road.

Mr. McKinney continued, advising that the Summerfield Planning/Zoning Commission has expressed concerns regarding the proposed minor thoroughfare designation for Strawberry Road, between NC Highway 150 and U.S. Highway 220. The Guilford County Planning Department requested this amendment in the interest of the town. This amendment will be considered again in the future.

He also commented that the Town Council of Stokesdale took no action on the request to designate as a thoroughfare, a currently unclassified section of U.S. Highway 158. This request was made by the Guilford County Planning Department on behalf of the town. The Town Council has reservations about re-classifying this section of U.S. Highway 158 as a thoroughfare, because doing so could, in their opinion, interfere with future plans for installing a water line from Winston-Salem.

He further advised that three public comments were received on this amendment. First, the Rosewood Neighborhood Association voiced support for the removal of the minor thoroughfare designation on Textile Drive and Gatewood Avenue. The next comment, coming from the Department of Housing and Community Development, supports deletion of the final segment of Bragg Boulevard. The final comment came from a citizen, requesting a major freeway alignment to go through the Greensboro central business district that could possibly be an interstate business route, which would not be practical due to the amount of impact it would have.

Mr. McKinney concluded by advising that there are five proposed additions to the thoroughfare plan resulting from the public input process. The requested action is to recommend approval of the proposed amendments to the TAC.

Jim Westmoreland asked for a motion to recommend adoption of the Thoroughfare Plan Amendment to the TAC. Frank Wyatt moved to recommend the adoption of the Thoroughfare Plan Amendment. Scott Rhine seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### **Business Items**

## 1. Confirm Proposed 2002 MPO Meeting Schedule

Jeff Sovich presented the 2002 MPO meeting schedule to the Committee. This schedule was designed so that the Committee will have a regular time and location for the meetings. The meetings will occur on the third Wednesday of each month. The TCC meetings will convene at 2:00 p.m., and TAC meetings will convene at 3:00 p.m. The schedule will be submitted to the TAC for review and approval.

#### 2. Discuss Draft of 2004 – 2010 MTIP Public Transportation Element

Libby James advised that changing from a Governor's Apportionment recipient to a Direct Apportionment recipient will result in the loss of operating assistance funds. In 2004, funding will be available to support preventive maintenance, ADA services, capital items, and planning assistance. The allocation would be approximately \$1,000,000. Scott Rhine advised that PART's primary request on the MTIP would be for capital items.

#### 3. Overview of the Signal System Feasibility Study

Tyler Meyer advised that there would be a full presentation at the TAC meeting on this feasibility study, which will include the consultant's findings and recommendations.

#### 4. Transportation Planning Report

Tyler Meyer advised the Committee on the following:

MPO Priority Needs Session – This session is one of the steps in the 2004 – 2010 TIP development process. TAC members, NCDOT programming officials, and Doug Galyon will collectively review the situation for potential future projects. There will be an update at the next meeting, on the outcome of this session.

Travel Model Update – There will be updates on the progress of this project at upcoming meetings.

<u>Airport Area Transportation Study</u> – This project has not been re-focused to become a pre-TIP study. The NCDOT found that doing so would not be feasible, so the report has been brought back to the discussion stage. Jim Westmoreland commented that the study needs to be finished and that there should be a progress update at the next meeting.

<u>Long Range Public Transportation Plan</u> – Libby James informed the Committee that progress continues on this project. Four firms have responded to the RFP. All four teams are impressive and have different approaches toward developing the plan. The Evaluation Selection Team members are to submit their evaluation forms by 2/21/02. The recommendation will be made to the Greensboro Transit Authority Board on Tuesday, 2/26/02. The plan development process should take a maximum of 18 months from the time the contract is awarded, although some of the firms have asserted that they could complete it in 12 months.

#### **Other Items**

# 1. TCC Member Update

Scott Rhine advised that there would be a PART rail studies group meeting on 2/21/02, and review comments on the Inter-City Rail Report are expected to be available at that meeting. The report will then go through the public review process and then be submitted to the NCDOT Rail Division for their consideration to enter it into the Western North Carolina Passenger Rail Services. Ridership estimates for mass transit on the corridor study are expected to be presented by the consultant at this meeting. The regional bus group is also expected to meet concerning the regional express buses.

Mike Mills advised that the eastern segment of the Urban Loop should be open in late spring of 2002. The southern segment is on schedule to be completed this year. The Interstate 40 project from Holden Road to Chimney Rock Road should be completed late this year. The other section should have one lane in each direction open this year.

The TCC adjourned at 3:07 p.m.